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Sara Carter
Type or print name


Signature

January 28, 2004
Date

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF

JOSEPH MICHAEL LINDACHER

APPLICATION NO:

FILED: JANUARY 28, 2004

FOR: OPHTALMIC LENS HAVING AN OPTICAL ZONE BLEND DESIGN

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

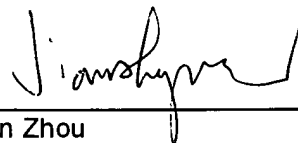
This paper is being filed within three months of the filing date of the application. Therefore, no fees are required. If a fee is deemed to be required, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge such fee to Deposit Account No. 50-2965.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.56, applicant wishes to call the Examiner's attention to the references cited on the attached form(s) PTO-1449.

Copies of these references are enclosed herewith.

The Examiner is requested to consider the foregoing information in relation to this application and indicate that each reference was considered by returning a copy of the initialed PTO 1449 form(s).

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jian Zhou', is written over a horizontal line.

Jian Zhou
Agent for Applicant
Reg. No. 41,422

CIBA Vision Corporation
Patent Department
11460 Johns Creek Parkway
Duluth, GA 30097-1556
(678) 415-4691

Date: January 28, 2004

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION

(Use several sheets if necessary)

ATTY. DOCKET NO.
CL/V-32843A
APPLICATION NO.APPLICANT
JOSEPH MICHAEL LINDACHER
FILING DATE
JANUARY 28, 2004

Group

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE
	AA	6,260,966	7/17/01	Sawano et al.	351	161	12/29/99
	AB	6,030,077	2/29/00	Sawano et al.	351	161	3/9/99
	AC	5,743,159	4/28/98	Svochak et al.	82	168	10/21/96
	AD	5,740,707	4/21/98	Svochak et al.	82	1.11	10/21/96
	AE	5,724,120	3/3/98	Svochak et al.	351	161	10/2/95
	AF	5,483,304	1/9/96	Porat	351	161	8/4/93
	AG	4,938,583	7/3/90	Miller	351	161	9/5/89
	AH						
	AI						
	AJ						
	AK						
	AL						

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	OFFICE	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
							YES	NO
	AM						<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	AN						<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	AO						<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	AP						<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	AQ						<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent pages, Etc.)

	AR	European Search Report
	AS	
	AT	

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

*EXAMINER: Initial of reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609: Draw a line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include a copy of this form with the next communication to applicant.

Robert Karl Müller
Patent Specialist

Novartis AG
Corporate Intellectual Property
CH-4002 Basel
Switzerland
Tel: +41 61 324 79 97
Fax: +41 61 322 75 32



CIBA Vision Corporation
Attn.: Mr. Richard Gearhart
11460 Johns Creek Parkway
Duluth / Atlanta, GA 30155

TELEFAX

From: +41 61 322 75 32

To: 001 678 415 3068

Total pages: 4

August 28, 2003

Your Ref:

Our Ref:
NI CIP/RKM

Information Disclosure Statement

U.S. Patent Application No:
Case:

Relevant to a corresponding regular application
CL/V-32843P1/PROV/CVA

Dear Richard

Please find enclosed herewith:

- ☒ copy of Standard Search Report issued on the priority application No. 60/446,658
- ☒ copy of equivalency list issued by the EPO

Please note that the Search Division considers that the application relates to five different inventions.

Yours faithfully
Novartis AG

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Robert Karl Müller'.

Robert Karl Müller
Patent Specialist

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bernd Liphardt'.

Bernd Liphardt
Patent Attorney, Group Head

AUG 2003
RECEIVED
PATENT DEPT

CL/V-32843 P1/CVA

European Patent
Office

STANDARD SEARCH REPORT

File
RS 109873

US 60/446,658

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	
	LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION see sheet B ---		
X	EP 0 248 489 A (MILLER GREGORY N) 9 December 1987 (1987-12-09) * abstract * * page 4, line 13 - line 20 * * page 8, line 19 - line 27 * * page 9, line 1 - line 14 * * figures 3-6 *	1-4, 18-20	
A		5,21	
X	EP 0 942 312 A (MENICON CO LTD) 15 September 1999 (1999-09-15) * abstract; figures *	1-4, 18-20	
A		5,21	
X	US 5 724 120 A (WESS COLIN HOWARD ET AL) 3 March 1998 (1998-03-03) * abstract * * column 2, line 6 - line 26 * * column 4, line 19 - line 63 * * figures 1-4 *	1,18	TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.7)
A		2-5, 19-21	G02C
X	US 5 483 304 A (PORAT MENACHEM) 9 January 1996 (1996-01-09) * abstract; figures 1-4 *	1,18	
A		2-5, 19-21	
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Date of completion of the search		Examiner	
19 August 2003		Seibert, J	
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS			
X: particularly relevant if taken alone Y: particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A: technological background O: non-written disclosure P: intermediate document T: theory or principle underlying the invention E: earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D: document cited in the application L: document cited for other reasons &: member of the same patent family, corresponding document			

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EPO FORM 1500 03.02 (P04C17)



European Patent
Office

LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION
SHEET B

Application Number

RS 109873
US 446658

The Search Division considers that the present patent application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

1. Claims: 1-5, 18-21

First invention:

- A multifocal contact lens wherein the distance between the apex of a first optical zone and the vertex center of a second optical zone is 1.5mm or less and wherein the distance of the first optical zone to the second optical zone is 0.05mm or less.
- The corresponding method of manufacturing.

2. Claims: 6-9, 22-24

Second invention:

- A multifocal contact lens with a blending zone, wherein the blending zone has a mirror symmetry with respect to the vertical meridian.
- The corresponding method of manufacturing.

3. Claims: 10-13, 25

Third invention:

- A multifocal contact lens, wherein a mechanical feature maintains the positional and rotational stability of the lens on the eye.
- The corresponding method of manufacturing.

4. Claims: 14-16, 26, 27

Fourth invention:

- Dependent claims dealing with specific optical properties of the claimed multifocal contact lens.
- The corresponding method of manufacturing.

5. Claim : 17

Fifth invention:

A multifocal contact lens with means to help positioning the lens correctly in the eye.

The search has been limited to the invention first mentioned in the claims. A search for each of the other inventions can be carried out upon your request. For each additional invention a standard search fee will be due.

ANNEX TO THE STANDARD SEARCH REPORT NO.

RS 109873

This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned search report.
The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on
The European Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

19-08-2003

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date		Patent family member(s)	Publication date
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